

Grace and peace!  
Wherever you are on  
your faith  
journey, you are  
welcome here. If you  
are looking for a  
church home, we invite  
you to join us in  
serving and  
worshiping God and  
enjoying fellowship  
together. Please seek  
out, call or email a  
pastor, or speak to the  
elder who stands at the  
front of the sanctuary  
following each  
worship service. She or  
he will arrange for you  
to meet with the  
Session and be  
received into  
membership. All who  
follow Jesus Christ  
may become  
a member.

**Children are welcome  
in all worship services  
here.** We are aware  
that young children  
may find it challenging  
to participate in the  
entire service. So,  
during the 11 a.m. ser-  
vice, children 5 years  
and younger are  
invited to the nursery  
right after "Passing the  
Peace."

*Beginning at 8:30 am child-  
care is available for in-  
fants – 5-year-olds on the  
Children's Hall in Rooms  
101, 102, & 103.*



T Coil  
LOOP  
Technology  
available.



**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
Sunday, January 1, 2017  
First Sunday after Christmas Day  
11:00 a.m.

**Preparation for Worship**

Holy One,  
your Word comes to us:  
Jesus Christ, Immanuel.  
Holy Word,  
you cross every border  
meant to shut you out.  
Holy Wisdom,  
speak to us  
in the word read and proclaimed.  
Hearing, may we dream your dreams  
and faithfully follow wherever you lead.  
In your triune name we pray. Amen.

(from Feasting on the Word,  
Worship Companion, Year A,  
Volume 1)

*Claimed by the Triune God, we worship only God and are called by the Holy Spirit to share  
the boundary-breaking love of Christ in our life together, in the heart of Asheville, and in the whole world.*

## GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

\* HYMN 143                      Angels, from the Realms of Glory                      REGENT SQUARE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, in great love you have claimed us  
as your children.  
We confess that we have not loved you as we should.  
We shortchange your purposes and plans;  
we grow weary and give up when the way is hard.  
We are complacent in the presence of injustice and violence,  
and fail to recognize our own complicity.**

**Forgive us, especially when we fail to  
protect children who are  
so vulnerable and precious in your sight.  
Forgive our misuse of power against people,  
and against your creation.**

**Help us to praise you by living in harmony and peace.  
Strengthen us when we are tested,  
and set us free from fear  
that we may trust in you completely.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who shared our flesh and blood.**

*Silent Confession*

RESPONSE (*Music found in Hymn #121*)

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us: abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

ST. LOUIS

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE (*Music Found in Hymn #132*)

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

IN DULCI JUBILO

(11:00 a.m.) During the singing of the hymn, children are invited to come forward to the chancel for the Children's Moment.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us also forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

CRADLE SONG

*The music is found in  
hymn 114.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Jeremiah 31:10-17

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 2:13-23

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Today we welcome Loudon Young to our pulpit. A member of New Hope Presbyterian Church here in Asheville, Loudon is a second-year student at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. During his high school years Loudon was an active member of the FPC-A youth group, and after graduating from Maryville College he served as a youth advisor for several years. He is seeking a dual masters degree in Christian Education and Divinity at Columbia.*

SERMON

“Christian in Response”

Loudon Young

*A Time for Silent Reflection*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 145

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *from the PC(USA) Declaration of Faith*

**Jesus Christ overthrew evil powers that enslaved and degraded people,  
yet he made no use of power to protect himself.  
He healed those who were sick in body and mind,  
yet he did not avoid pain and suffering for himself.  
He commanded his followers to place loyalty to him  
above loyalty to family and country,  
yet he lived among them as a servant  
Jesus taught with authority,  
challenging many time-honored customs and ideas,  
yet he submitted to humiliation and death  
without a word on his own behalf.**

**He forgave sinners, yet he was counted among sinners.  
We recognize the work of God in Jesus' power and authority.  
He did what only God can do.  
We also recognize the work of God in Jesus' lowliness.  
When he lived as a servant and went humbly to his death  
the greatness that belongs only to God was manifest.  
In both his majesty and lowliness  
Jesus is the eternal Son of God, God himself with us.**

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

All creation teems with the abundance of  
God's provision:  
mountains and hills, fruit trees and cedars,  
creeping things and flying birds!

**Our own lives bear witness to the abundance of  
God's love and mercy,  
for God has lifted us up and carried us in our need.  
In joyful praise, we offer to God a portion of all we have received.**

### OFFERING

SOLO

The Virgin's Slumber Song

Max Reger

Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks the Jesus child,  
While amid the treetops sighs the breeze so warm and mild.  
And soft and sweetly sings a bird upon the bough.  
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!  
Happy is the laughter, holy is Thy silent rest.  
Lay Thy head in slumber, fondly on Thy mother's breast!  
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

We remember those who participate in worship by listening to recordings of this service and/or by receiving communion at home:

Carl Dobson  
Angela Hardin  
Milly Middleton  
Bette Moore  
Jean Bassett  
John & Barbara Fletcher  
Pat Kendall  
Susan Hudson  
Louise Williams

We receive communion this morning by intinction. For those in the balcony and nave, come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisle. For those seated in the side transepts, we will have servers come to you. If you prefer a gluten-free option, please come to the server in the front-center of the chancel. If you prefer to remain seated, please raise your hand after the others have come forward and the meal will be brought to you.

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Responses: (Hymn 552 & 553)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Cantor, then all:*

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### SENDING

\* HYMN 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

*\* indicates stand as able*

### PERSONS ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Liturgists: *Michael Poulos, Marge Marsh*

Musicians: *John Crowley - Guest Organist, Kim Thomas- Cantor*

## WORSHIP

### January 8: Regular schedule resumes

8:45 a.m. Worship in the Chapel, 9:45 a.m. Faith Development, 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

### January 11 Epiphany of the Lord Worship Service

*Dinner served 5:30 pm -6:10pm, Fellowship Hall, No Reservations Necessary  
Adults \$8, children and youth no charge*

The Christmas season concludes on January 6, Epiphany of the Lord, which falls on a Friday in 2017. Following dinner and fellowship together at tables we will gather in the sanctuary for worship. Epiphany means "manifestation," and Epiphany worship celebrates the manifestation of God in the birth of Jesus Christ, expressed in the symbol of the star and the journey of the Magi. Our Epiphany service is a Communion service, and it also will include our annual ritual of selecting a "star word" for the coming year.



**SIGN UP to participate in worship:** We hope you will sign up to share in worship as a liturgist or to offer a prayer one Sunday. The pastors will be in touch with you beforehand to give you assistance. Use our link from the website: <https://www.fpcasheville.org/sign-up-form> which connects to the SignUp.com invitation.

## CONNECT

**Art Gallery News:** You have just one more week to enjoy the Advent project "Waiting in Color" in the gallery. The items will remain on display through January 8. Thank you to everyone who participated; hopefully you found it a meaningful way to celebrate Advent. The next exhibit will feature work from two local organizations that use art as a way to reach specific segments of our society. Rise Up! Studio is a project of the BeLoved House, giving people who are homeless or have low incomes the space and supplies to create and sell art. Open Hearts Art Center is an arts program that provides unique opportunities for differently abled adults to express themselves.



**Saturday Sanctuary continues each week** – During the fall and winter months, we open our fellowship hall on Saturday afternoon. During the hours of 12:30-3:30 p.m., we offer a warm facility, serve a healthy lunch, enjoy movies & popcorn, provide board games & prayer cards - all aimed at creating a safe place to be community with our downtown neighbors. Through this ministry of hospitality we believe we experience the boundary-breaking love of God in real ways! Please check your calendar and see when you can join us as a volunteer. Use the form on the website, or email [satsanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:satsanctuary@gmail.com).



### HOMeward BOUND **Hosting Room in the Inn, January 8-15**

**ROOM IN THE INN** A program of Homeward Bound, Room in the Inn provides an overnight stay of hospitality for women who otherwise would be homeless. Volunteers are needed to load/unload mattresses, wash blankets, prepare dinners, serve as dinner hosts, transport women back and forth to the AHOPE Day Center, and spend the night as chaperones. Sign-up today at the receptionist desk of the Wallace Foyer lobby or online on our Outreach journal. For more information about this ministry, contact Jean Corliss ([jcorliss31@charter.net](mailto:jcorliss31@charter.net) / 251-2307) or Michael Poulos.

**Women's Dinner Out:** All women, members & visitors are invited to share food and fellowship at Char Bar 7 in Gerber Village on Thursday, January 12 at 6:30 pm. RSVP by calling the church office or sign up in the Foyer.

### **Group for Families with Loved Ones Experiencing Memory Loss**

Families with members experiencing memory loss will meet for support and discussion after 11am worship on Sunday January 7th. The meeting be from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Room 112. Those attending are invited to bring a snack or lunch or pick up some coffee at church and join the group. Anyone with questions about the group may call Earl Thompson and Marge Marsh, who convene the groups, at 285-2326.

## **STUDY**

### **ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT (9:45 a.m. Sunday morning)**

#### **January 8 – Mission Ministry in China** (Gardner Fellowship Hall)

Come learn about Leslie Doyle's mission experiences volunteering with a Chinese Orphanage Christian Ministry. Her daughter Shelby is also spending two years in china teaching English while engaged in mission ministry. *Teacher: Leslie Doyle*

#### **PW Bible Study 10:30-11:45am "Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes"** (Room 112)

Upcoming Meeting Dates: January 9, February 6, March 6

Judy Siker explores answers to the question, "Who is Jesus through the lenses of Mark, Matthew, Luke, John, Paul, Hebrews, the non-canonical gospels, the Abrahamic Faiths, and contemporary cultural interpretations. Instructor: Rev. Dr. Patrick Johnson

Men & women are invited to join this exciting opportunity for study and reflection, regardless of circle participation. Study book \$8.00.

#### **Time Out for Everyone** – Meets weekly / 10:15am – 12:15 in the Widman Room across from the library

All Folks of various ages and stages of life are invited, Childcare is available if needed; RSVP/ Contact Nancy McNeill 253-1431 ext.126 for questions or more information. January Meetings: 5, 12, 19, 26

**The Session has called a congregational meeting to approve the Terms of Call  
for installed pastors in the Sanctuary at 10:40 a.m. on January 8, 2017**

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Please use the Care Line phone number, email or pew cards to communicate confidentially with the pastors if you would like to share concerns or request support. Phone and email messages will reach one of our pastors at any time. If you have scheduled a hospitalization, please let us know as soon as possible.

**(828-222-0113/ [careline@fpcasheville.org](mailto:careline@fpcasheville.org))**



**Our Partners in Ministry at 40 Church**



**Church Staff**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Johnson, Pastor/Head of Staff x. 112 [pjohnson@fpcasheville.org](mailto:pjohnson@fpcasheville.org)  
Rev. Michael Poulos, Associate Pastor for Youth & Mission x. 125 [mpoulos@fpcasheville.org](mailto:mpoulos@fpcasheville.org)  
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